Why Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning?

- Emergency Management Phases
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning

Emergency Management Phases

- **Mitigation** is any sustained action take to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event.
- **Preparedness** includes plans and plan preparations made to save lives and property and to facilitate response operations.
- **Response** includes actions taken to provide emergency assistance, save lives, minimize property damage, and speed recovery immediately following a disaster.
- **Recovery** includes actions taken to return to a normal or improved operating conditions following a disaster.

Emergency Management Phases

- Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP)
  - A pre-disaster strategic plan written to guide how a community will lower its risk and exposure to disasters
- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
  - A response plan written to demonstrate how a community will respond in the wake of an emergency or a disaster

What is Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning?

- A process for identifying measures that eliminate the loss of life and property due to natural [and manmade] disasters prior to hazard events.

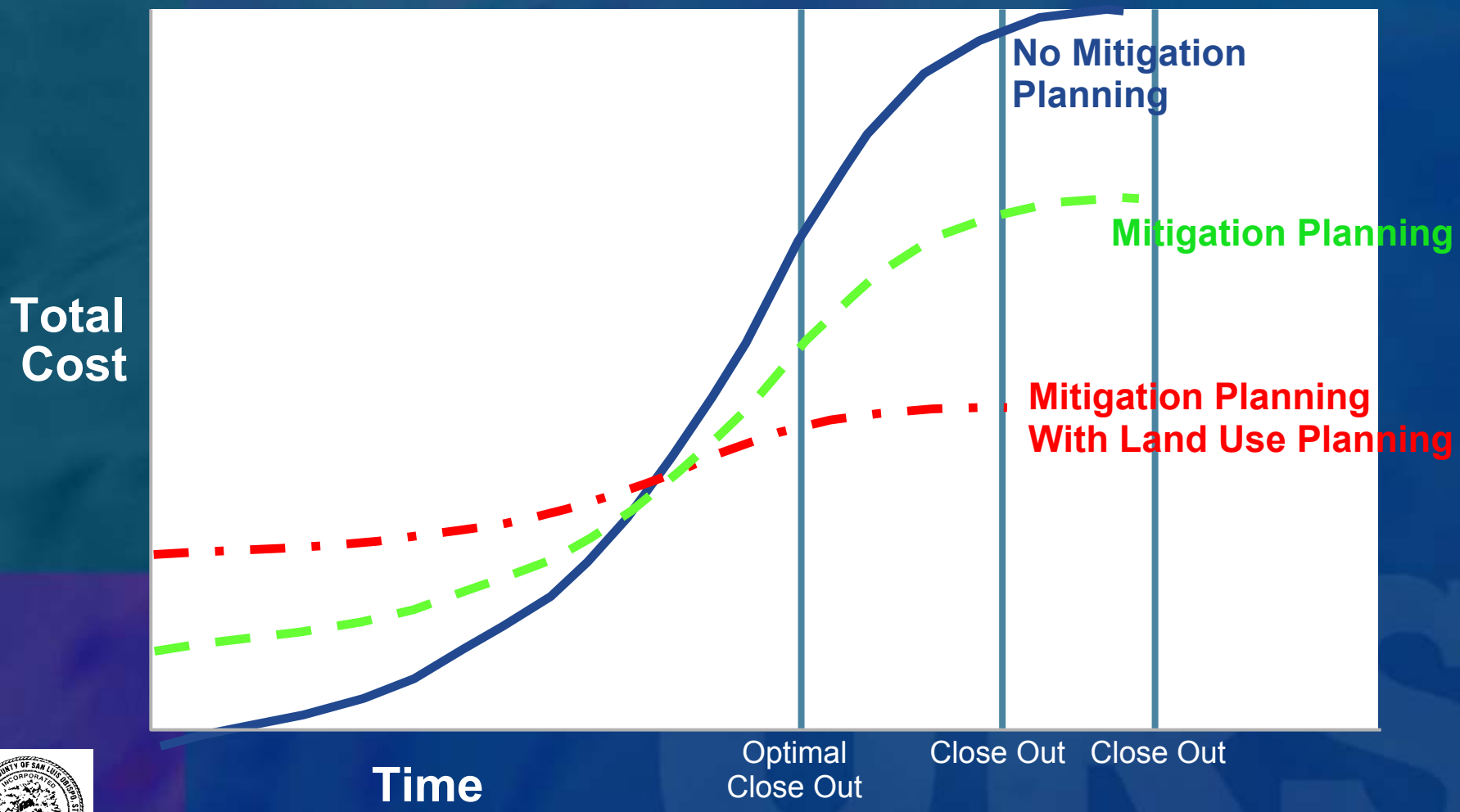
mit-i-gate\ 1: to cause to become less harsh or hostile; **2:** to make less severe or painful

plan-ning\ : the act or process of making or carrying out plans; *specif:* the establishment of goals, policies and procedures for a social or economic unit

Summary Benefits of Mitigation Planning

- Leads to cost-effective selection of risk reduction actions
- Builds partnerships
- Contributes to sustainable communities
- Establishes funding priorities
- Maintains funding eligibility

Why Hazard Mitigation Planning is Important . . .



Types of Mitigation Measures

1. Prevention
2. Property Protection
3. Public Education and Awareness
4. Natural Resource Protection
5. Emergency Services
6. Structural Projects

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning

- National trends toward more disasters in more places is alarming and costly:
  - Nearly 1,000 presidential disaster declarations since 1970's
  - More than 6,000 deaths, 50,000 injuries, hundreds of thousands made homeless (*)
  - Billions of $$ spent for response and recovery by public agencies and private insurers

* not including 9/11 attacks

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning

- Mitigation measures (structural, non-structural and regulatory) can yield "order of magnitude" returns on investments in terms of direct losses avoided and even more benefits in terms of indirect losses.

Would you spend $1 to save $3? Or $1 million to save $3 million?

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning

- Although progress has been made, mitigation planning efforts to date have often been missing the mark:
  - Post-disaster
  - Lacking comprehensive and quantitative risk assessments
  - Lacking basis for making rational decisions to identify and prioritize mitigation measures

We need to maximize our local, state and national investments

Facts

- Signed into law in October 2000 (PL 106-390)
- Section 322 requires a revitalized approach to hazard mitigation through planning
  - Paradigm shift from focus on response and recovery
- Interim Final Rule for planning provisions published in Federal Register on February 26, 2002
- Revised Interim Final Rule published on October 1, 2002, extending state and local plan adoption date to November 1, 2004
- Handout

Facts

- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) required/affects
  - Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
  - Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program
  - Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) programs
  - Small Business Administration (SBA) loans
- Increased HMGP funding
  - Enhanced Statewide Plans
- HMGP funding for plan development

Hazard Mitigation Planning Process

Handout

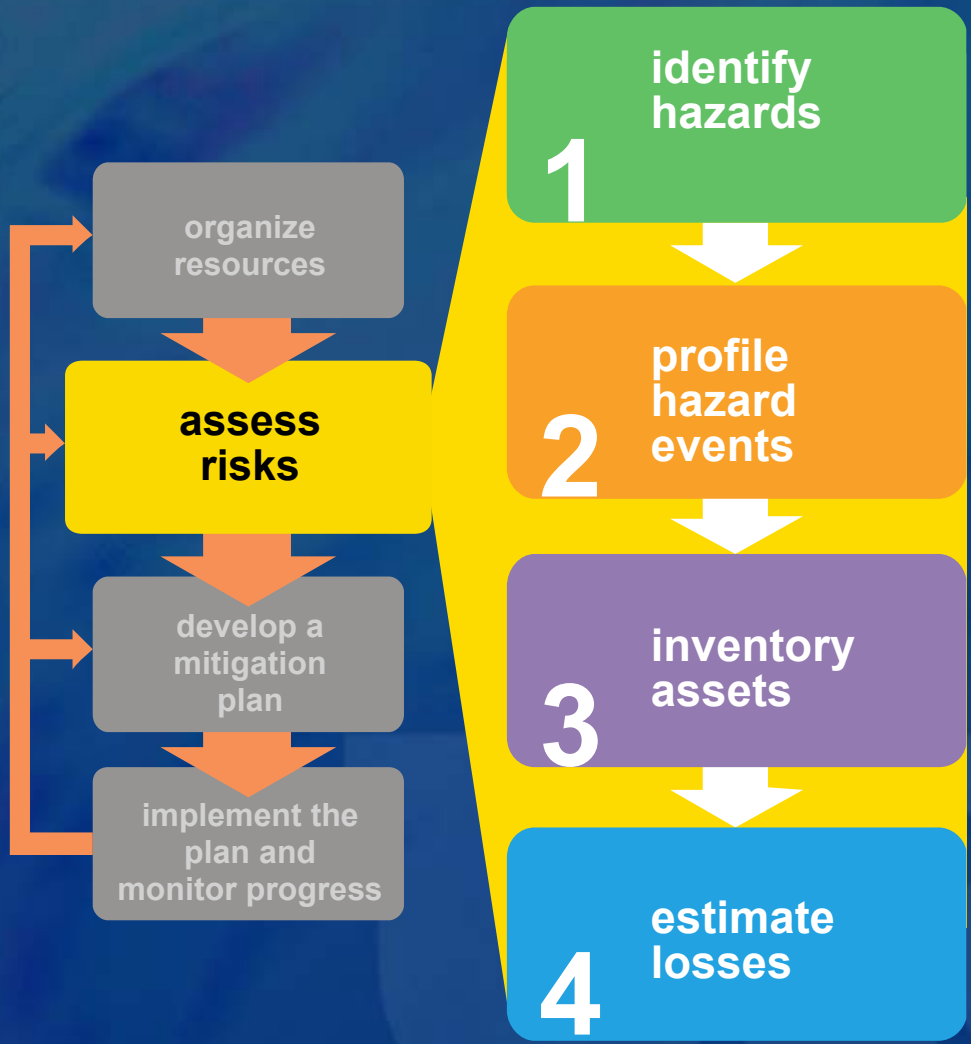
Hazard Mitigation Planning Process

Hazard Mitigation Planning Process

- Not a linear process
  - May revisit issues based on new information or direction
  - Plan must be updated at least every five years

Phase 1: Organize Resources

Phase 2: Assess Risks



Phase 3: Develop a Mitigation Plan

Phase 4: Implement the Plan and Monitor Progress